

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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P 300251Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

S E C R E T STATE 179373

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOGADISCIO 1295 ACTION SECSTATE DATED
JUL 28:

QTE: S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 1295

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, US

SUBJ: SOMALI MILITARY DELEGATION TO US

1. FONMIN ABDURAHMAN BARRE SUMMONED ME JULY 28 TO SAY PRESIDENT
SIAD WISHED TO SEND TWO-MAN SOMALI DELEGATION TO UNITED
STATES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS MILITARY WEAPONS

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LIST. FONMIN EMPHASIZED SERIOUSNESS OF SOMALI MILITARY
(#)

PRESENT. HE HOPED US COULD ASSIST SNA AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE.

2. AMBASSADOR ADDOU ALSO SAT IN ON OUR CONVERSATION.
ADDOU, WHO HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON

IN ADVANCE OF ARRIVAL OF SOMALI (#), ALSO REITERATED
URGENCY OF SOMALI NEEDS. DEPT WILL RECALL THAT HE FORESAW
SUCH A POSSIBILITY (#) OUR
CONVERSATION OF JULY 23
(MOGADISCIO 1249).

3. FONMIN TOLD ME THAT SOMALI WEAPONS REQUEST WAS FIRST
STEP IN POSSIBLE NEW MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH US.
HE SAID SNA NEEDS MIGHT ULTIMATELY GO FAR BEYOND EQUIPMENT
ALREADY REQUESTED BUT DURING PRESENT CRISIS SOMALI GOVERNMENT
WAS IN DIRE NEED CERTAIN MILITARY ITEMS. HE HOPED THAT US
RESPONSE WOULD BE TIMELY AT PERIOD WHEN DELAY OF EVEN TWO
WEEKS MIGHT MEAN (#) WOULD ARRIVE TOO LATE.

4. TO SAVE TIME, SIAD HAD GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS THAT TWO-MAN
DELEGATION SHOULD PROCEED TO US AFTER LONDON CONSULTATIONS
WITH BRITISH. TWO-MAN DELEGATION INCLUDES FORMER SOMALI
AMBASSADOR TO TANZANIA AND SNA COLONEL WHO IS CURRENTLY IN
EUROPE, PRESUMABLY ON WEAPONS CONSULTATIONS. NAMES WILL
BE FURNISHED ME LATER THIS AFTERNOON.

5. ADDOU WILL DEPART MOGADISCIO ON SUNDAY, JULY 31 AND
HOPES TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON AUGUST ONE. TWO-MAN DELEGATION
WILL ARRIVE SAME WEEK. THEY WOULD HOPE MEET WITH
STATE AND DEFENSE OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS WEAPONS LIST
ALREADY PROVIDED USG. ADDOU WILL CONTACT DEPARTMENT UPON
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HIS RETURN TO BEGIN ARRANGING ITINERARY.

6. FONMIN SAID THEIR DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON WOULD FOCUS
ON WEAPONS LIST ALREADY PROVIDED. WHEN I RAISED QUESTION
AS TO SOMALI POSITION REGARDING VISIT OF US MILITARY DELEGATION
TO SOMALIA, ADDOU SAID THAT THIS WAS DEFINITE POSSIBILITY
FOLLOWING WASHINGTON TALKS. IN REPLY TO MY QUESTION,
BOTH FONMIN AND ADDOU DENIED THAT ANY FOREIGN MILITARY
DELEGATION CURRENTLY VISITING SOMALIA.

7. COMMENT: I BELIEVE VISIT OF TWO-MAN DELEGATION WILL BE
USEFUL IN OBTAINING BETTER SENSE OF SNA NEEDS AS WELL AS
ATTITUDES REGARDING US MILITARY ASSISTANCE. HAVING
COMMITTED OURSELVES IN PRINCIPAL TO HELPING MEET SIAD'S
DEFENSIVE NEEDS, WE COULD NOT DEFER DISCUSSIONS WITH SOMALIS
WITHOUT RAISING QUESTION IN THEIR MIND AS TO SERIOUSNESS
OF OUR INTENTIONS. I HOPE THAT DESPITE SHORT NOTICE
DEPARTMENT AND DOD OFFICIALS CAN ARRANGE TO MEET WITH ADDOU
AND DELEGATION NEXT WEEK FOR TALKS ON SNA NEEDS AND
ITS EXPECTATIONS REGARDING US.
LOUGRAN UNQTE VANCE

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